

other traces of the aborigines have been dug up at depths of 5 and 10 feet beneath the surface, on the opening of canals and ditches remote from the river.

The same depressing influence has been at work at Shediac and Bay Verte.—At the latter place the gravestones of persons killed by the Indians in 1755 are now reached by the tide at high water, which washes the base of old Fort Moncton, and rises above its causeway.

In the County of Northumberland, where it borders upon the Bay de Chaleurs there has been a depression, evidently slow in its progress and continued. In the vicinity of Bay des Vents and Lower Bay des Vents, extensive peat-bogs are seen at low water reaching outwards beneath the sea: the peat is of super-marine growth, and its highest parts are scarcely above the tide-level. The shores are low and level; and evidences of land-slides are absent. At Bathurst, on the contrary, and on the opposite shore of Lower Canada, there has been an elevation of several feet, and which apparently is still progressing. A number of minor elevations and depressions were observed during the writer's geological survey of the Province, before leaving which the terraces along the Upper St. John River may be adverted to, as being connected with this subject.

On the banks of this river we frequently observe, in ascending from its borders, several parallel steps which rise abruptly from one level to another in succession. These steps are composed of diluvial matter, in which there are occasionally contained decayed timber and fragments of freshwater shells. These are well displayed near the ferry four miles below Woodstock.

These several terraces mark distinctly the former banks of the river, which has been withdrawn from its ancient limits to a narrow channel with an increased velocity of current. Near the mouth of Maduxnaqueag, a tributary of the St. John, the ancient bed of the stream is now dry and under cultivation.—Whether these terraces have been produced by an uplifting or depressing force, it is difficult to ascertain. It is probable, however, that the site of the river was once a lake, which has been drained by the yielding of the earth further down the stream, where there are now violent rapids and marks of recent terrestrial disturbance. Terraced valleys are common on many of the rivers of North America.

*Nova Scotia.*—At many places in Nova Scotia, changes of level on the surface of the earth appear very distinct, although they are less manifest than they are in the sister Province. It is generally maintained by aged persons, that the tides flowing into the Bay of Fundy and Minas Basin and its numerous rivers and creeks, are rising. The records of ancient landmarks, the encroachment of the water upon the dry earth, the discovery of ancient bridges and relics of the native Indians beneath the present tide-level, corroborate that opinion. At numerous places in the marshes of the Shubenacadia, Avon, and King's County Rivers, the alluvia of the sea are perfectly stratified. Some of these strata and those called "blue marsh" are composed in part of plants still undergoing decomposition and expelling carburetted hydrogen. These strata are sometimes 12 feet beneath the surface, and interlaid with beds of alluvium, which, when their layers are exposed, display with beautiful distinctness the tracks of the numerous wading birds that frequent the shores. It is almost unnecessary to add that sea-alluvia never accumulate above the highest tide mark.